Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

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APPROVED BY L - STEPHEN M. SCHWEBEL
L/C:FKWIATEK
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EUR:RCASAGRANDE

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TO AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL STATE 293942

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EFIN, EINV, SY, GW, US

SUBJECT: U.S. PRIVATE AND OFFICIAL CLAIMS AGAINST SARG

REFS: (A) BONN 20209; (B) DAMASCUS 8155

- 1. APPRECIATE REFTEL. PFUND SHOULD SEEK FULLEST DESCRIPTION FROM TEXACO OF ITS CLAIM AND ITS PAST MAINTENANCE BY FRG, INCLUDING SYRIAN REACTIONS.
- 2. WE READ THE RECORD AS SO FAR PROVIDED BY TEXACO AS INDICATING THAT SARG HAS ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE (THOUGH POSSIBLY IT MAY NO LONGER ACCEPT) ITS OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE COMPENSATION TO ERDOL WHILE IN PRACTICE REFRAINING FROM DOING SO. COMMENTS BY TEXACO ATTORNEYS IN DETAIL ON THIS POINT WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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WELCOMED.

- 3. WE WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN LEARNING WHAT PRECISELY FRG RESPONDED TO TEXACO WHEN TEXACO RECENTLY SOUNDED IT ABOUT AN APPROACH TO SARG, AND WHETHER, IN TEXACO'S VIEW AND FRG'S, FRG REMAINS LEGALLY ENTITLED TO ESPOUSE THE CLAIM.
- 4. WE SHALL FOR OUR PART ALSO PURSUE FOREGOING OUESTIONS WITH TEXACO NEW YORK.
- 5. FYI. OUR CURRENT DISPOSITION IS TO DELETE ERDOL CLAIM FROM USG LIST WHILE AT SAME TIME INFORMALLY LENDING FRG ESPOUSAL OF IT POLITICAL SUPPORT. THUS, IF FRG IS PREPARED TO FORMALLY PRESS FOR SETTLEMENT, WE WOULD CONTEMPLATE REQUESTING EMBASSY DAMASCUS TO SAY TO SARG THAT, WHILE WE ARE NOT ESPOUSING THE CLAIM SINCE IT AROSE WHEN THE INTERESTS IN QUESTION WERE NOT AMERICAN, BECAUSE THE EQUITABLE INTERESTS NOW ARE AMERICAN WE ATTACH IMPORTANCE TO SARG ARRIVING AT A PROMPT AND JUST SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM WITH THE FRG. WE SHALL SUBSEQUENTLY ADVISE EMBASSY BONN ABOUT APPROACHING THE FRG TO THIS EFFECT. WE WOULD NOT EXCLUDE A LIKE APPROACH VIS-A-VIS LUXEMBOURG IN RESPECT OF THE IBEC CLAIM, THOUGH CLEARLY IT IS OF FAR LESSER CONSEQUENCE. END FYI. ROBINSON

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To: BONN

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